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9-10-02

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET: IFD/046

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ECKHARD ALT

Serial No. 09/735,401

Filed: 12/12/2000

Group Art Unit 3731

Examiner: Michael H. Thaler

Title: TUBULAR STENT WITH OVAL STRUTS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action dated 03/05/2002, please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

- B, 1 -- 61. (Amended) A balloon-expandable vascular or endoluminal stent adapted for
2 deployment in a vessel or tract of a patient to maintain an open lumen therein, comprising a
3 scaffold formed from a single open-ended tube having a solid tubular wall with a multiplicity
4 of through-holes in the tubular wall defined by a plurality of struts bounding said through-
5 holes; each of said struts having an optimized cross-section of oval shape with a short diameter
6 corresponding substantially to the thickness of said wall so that the long sides of the oval lie
7 at the outside and the inside of the tube wall at the respective strut, to enhance flexibility of
8 the stent, ease advancement of the stent through a lumen of the vessel or tract for deployment
9 at a target site therein, protect the balloon of a balloon catheter when the stent is tightly
10 crimped thereon, and enhance expansion of the stent during deployment while maintaining its

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#8/86
9-10-86

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Filed: 12/12/2000

Group Art Unit 3731

Examiner: Michael H. Thaler

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SEP 05 2007

GROUP 3700

Title: TUBULAR STENT WITH OVAL STRUTS

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1. Transmitted herewith by fax is a 5-page Amendment, 2-page Attachment A with clean copy of amended claims, and 1-page Certification of Facsimile Transmission, responsive to the Office Action of 03/05/2002.

2. The fee for claims has been calculated as follows:

	Claims After Amdmt.		Highest No. Prev. Pd. For		Extra	Present Rate (Small Entity)	Addl Fee
Total	4	minus	20	=	0	x \$9 =	\$ 0.00
Indep.	2	minus	3	=	0	x \$42 =	0.00
						TOTAL	\$ 0.00

3. Applicant requests a three-month extension of time to reply to the aforementioned Office Action. Enclosed herewith is a credit card payment (Form PTO-2038) to the USPTO for the extension fee of \$460.00. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed.

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Dated: 09/05/2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

ECKHARD ALT

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GROUP 3700


Title: TUBULAR STENT WITH OVAL STRUTS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**URGENT:** Please deliver this cover sheet and enclosed Papers ASAP as follows:

To: *Examiner Michael H. Thaler, Group Art Unit 3731*
Organization: *U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*
City: *Arlington, Virginia*
Recipient Fax No.: 703-872-9302 (per USPTO website)
Total pages: 11, including this cover page.
Please notify (480) 488-9895 if transmission is faulty.

The undersigned attorney of record certifies that this cover page, enclosed 5-page Amendment in reply to Office Action of 03/05/2002, 2-page Attachment A (marked-up version showing changes) to Amendment, Credit Card payment (Form PTO-2038), and 1-page Facsimile Transmittal Letter with fee calculation (in duplicate), were faxed from his office in Scottsdale, Arizona to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the above-referenced Recipient Fax Number on 09/05/2002, at approximately 10:55 P.M., Mountain Standard Time (Arizona does not observe Daylight Saving Time).

By


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Dated: 09/05/2002

DRG/IFD/CRT/FAX 046/09052